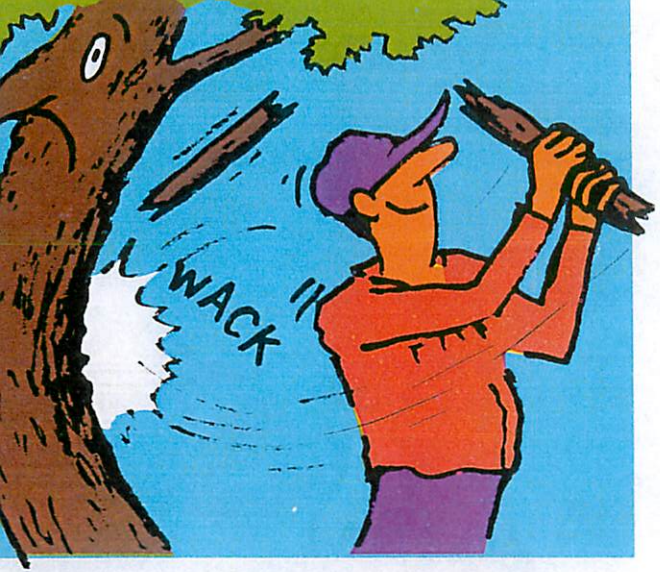


eaking firewood across a tree trunk can bruise
d kill the bark.

ees need their skin, too! Even though trees regu-
ly discard old bark, premature removal will kill
em.

1. Cut firewood on a chopping block rather than a tree trunk or exposed roots.
2. Hang lanterns on posts, when provided; otherwise set them on the ground or on a table. You can also suspend them from one of the special brackets now available.
3. Remove all wires and ropes when you break camp.
4. Take care not to injure trees while maneuvering vehicles.
5. Avoid exposed roots where possible. Park and ride motor vehicles only on authorized roads and trails.
6. Do not remove bark — even loose bark — from trees.

LESS COMMON INJURIES

- Dog chains attached around tree bases; the leash saws through the bark as the animal moves about.

- Nails and other objects driven into trees provide a place for harmful insects and decay fungi to enter.

You may spend only a few days in parks and campgrounds, but other visitors precede or follow you to the same spot. This procession begins in early spring and continues into late autumn. This is the season when trees are most sensitive to the kinds of injuries described in this leaflet. This is also the period when harmful insects and disease organisms are most active. Tree wounds are an open invitation to these pests.

Maintenance costs are high and demand a high proportion of recreation funds. Fewer tree injuries mean fewer hazardous trees must be treated or removed. As a result, more money will be available for development of new facilities for your enjoyment.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE
STATE & PRIVATE FORESTRY
Northeastern Area and Southeastern Area

Southeastern Area S.&P.F.-6 1976

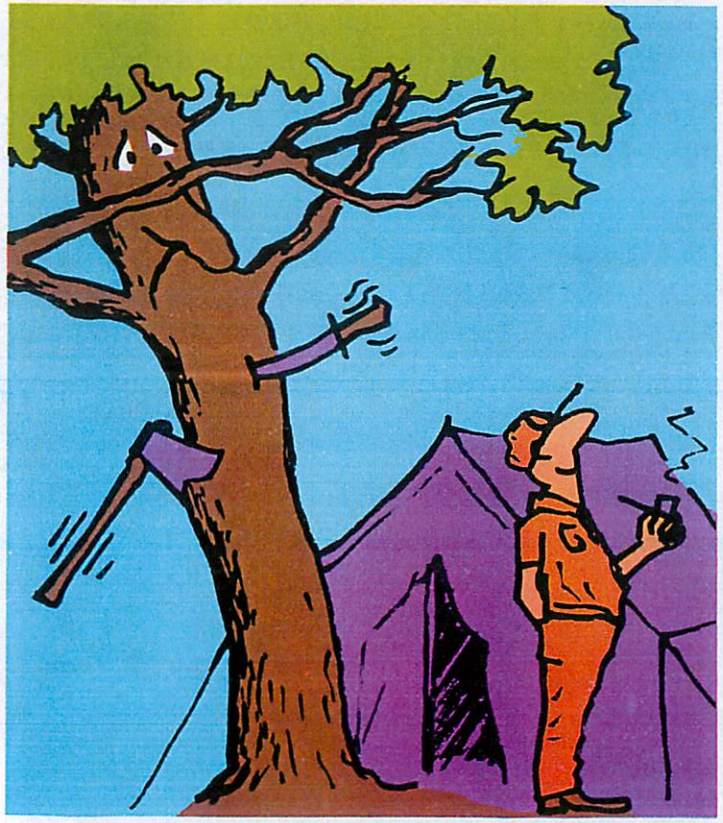
TREES NEED THEIR SKIN TOO!

Campers! Help Protect Trees In Your Campground From Injury

TREES NEED THEIR SKIN, TOO

Help keep recreation areas safe and beautiful — for your own enjoyment, and that of other people. Consider before — not after it's too late — the damage that may result from misuse of knives, hatchets, and other camping equipment. Here are some examples of damage that campers can prevent.

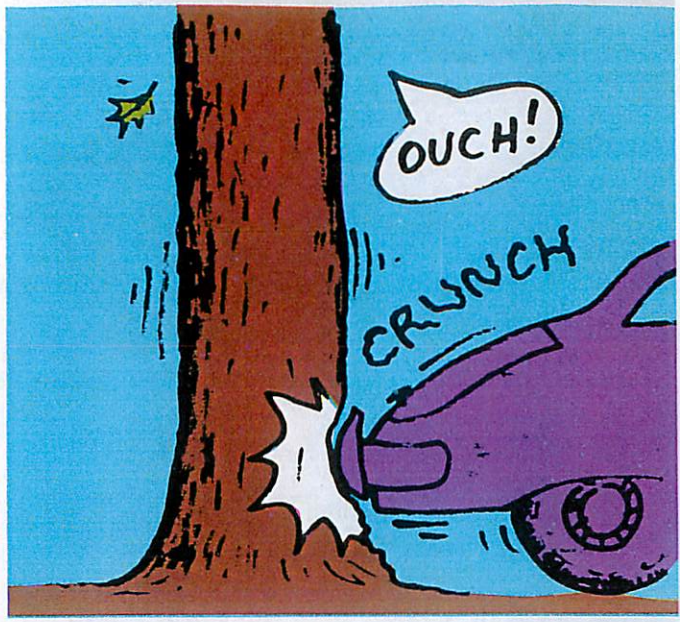
Tree wounds are unsightly and frequently do not heal. Wood that is exposed when bark is injured or removed is attacked by decay fungi and insects. Larger wounds then develop and the tree may become unsafe. Loss of these trees diminishes the enjoyment of the natural environment. Replacing them is costly.



Ax and knife wounds are the most common type of injury. Misuse of these tools severely injures trees.

Unknowingly, many people harm trees by hanging lanterns on them. Heat from the lanterns kills the adjacent bark.

Hang your clothes, leave the wire, and you may eventually hang the tree. Many types of rope or cord will also girdle trees.



Your car, camper van or trailer may have outgrown the parking pad. Be careful not to hit trees while backing in; neither the trees nor the vehicle were built for it.

Some areas are not suitable for heavy foot traffic or vehicles. Overuse of such areas will severely compact and erode the soil. As a result, roots suffer from exposure above ground and a lack of water and air below ground.